

Calvin College

2004 Fall Day 10 Report Highlights

Overall Enrollment Trends (Table 1)

The total number of students enrolled at Calvin this fall is 4,186, a decrease of 146 students from last fall. The Traditional Undergraduate Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment stands at 3,969, still within the optimal enrollment range of 3,900-4,100 Traditional Undergraduate FTE as established in the college's strategic plan.

Table 1 also shows a continuation of the trend toward more religious diversity at Calvin, with a slight increase in the percentage of students from outside the Christian Reformed Church (51.2%) and a corresponding decrease in the percentage of those with Christian Reformed affiliation (48.8%). Diversity in race and nationality also increased, as the numbers and percentages of non-North-American International citizens and AHANA students are up from last year. The number of students with Canadian citizenship dropped slightly, from 202 last fall to 185 this fall.

Table 1 also shows a slightly lower percentage of female students, 54.6% in 2004 compared to 56.0% in 2003. Thirty-seven percent (37%) of all students have at least one parent who is a Calvin alum.

Student Majors (Table 3)

The top four programs of study this fall, as measured by overall student enrollment in specific majors or concentrations are Elementary Education (8.5%), Secondary Education (7.4%), Business (6.2%), and Nursing (5.8%). Other top choices include Biology (4.1%), Psychology (4.1%) and English (3.9%).

The **departments** with the largest number of majors are Education (15.9%), Economics and Business (10.3%), Engineering (7.2%), Communication Arts & Sciences (6.7%, including Business/CAS group majors), Nursing (5.8%), Biology (4.7%), Sociology, Social Work, & Criminal Justice (4.4%), Psychology (4.1%) and English (3.9%). Over one-fifth (21.7%) of all declared majors are enrolled in one of the programs in Education.

Programs or majors showing steady increases over the past few years, including this year, are Biology, Chemistry, Communication Arts & Sciences, Mechanical Engineering, Foreign Languages, Nursing, Political Science and Sociology. In addition, substantial one-year increases from 2003 to 2004 can be seen in the number of HPERDS, Information Systems, Business and Physics majors. Increases in pre-professional programs are also evident this year, most notably in Pre-Medicine, Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Law, and Pre-Seminary.

Merit Scholarships (Table 4)

While the actual number of merit scholarships awarded to FTIACS (First Time in any College) dropped this year, the percentage of the class awarded a scholarship rose slightly from 58% to 59%. Nineteen National Merit Scholars are again part of the new entering class and over 20% of the class, or 198 students, are recipients of the Presidential Scholarship award of \$5,500. Of the 4,004 total traditional undergraduates enrolled, 1,798 (45%) are receiving one of the top five merit scholarships.

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Demographic Characteristics of Students (Tables 5, 6 & 7)

Calvin students come from 49 different states, 6 Canadian provinces and 44 other foreign countries. After Michigan (52.8% of all students), the top three states/provinces represented are Illinois (8.2%), Ontario (4.0%), and California (3.2%). For detailed counts of students by residence see Table 5.

The distributions of students by race/ethnicity and citizenship are shown in Table 6. The largest group of U.S. ethnic minorities enrolled at Calvin is Asian-American, at 114 students (2.7%). The number of AHANA students (African-, Asian-, Hispanic-, and Native-American) at the college is 223 (5.3%), up from 201 (4.6%) last fall.

The 175 Canadian citizens reported in Table 6 represent 4.2% of our student body. The top four non-North American countries represented by our International student citizens are South Korea (54 students), Nigeria (24 students), Ghana (15 students), and India (15 students).

Religious affiliations of students (Table 7) show Christian Reformed students comprising roughly 49% of the student body, with the second largest group of students affiliated with a Nondenominational church (11%). Other denominational families most frequently represented are Reformed, Presbyterian, and Baptist, each accounting for roughly 6-8% of the student body.

Retention and Graduation Rates (Table 8)

This year's FTIAC retention rate of 86.1% is down slightly from the previous two years' FTIAC cohorts (86.6% for the 2002 cohort and 87.2% for the 2001 cohort). The highest retention rates (based on four-year averages) continue among the following subgroups: top scholarship recipients (91%), alumni children (90%), and CRC students (89%). The high level of persistence of AHANA FTIACs from last year to this year (84%) is again welcome news.

The five-year graduation rate of the 1999 FTIAC class, at 69.5%, is the lowest graduation rate of the past four cohorts. Higher than average graduation rates among the 1999 cohort are found among Top Scholarship recipients (80.7%). Graduation rates for AHANA students dropped from 62% last year to 55% this year. Particularly large drops in the graduation rate from last year to this year are also seen among Males (down from 72% to 64%), Michigan students (down from 74% to 68%), Christian High School grads (down from 80% to 71%), Christian Reformed students (down from 79% to 73%) and Conditionally Admitted FTIACs (down from 48% to 27%).

New Students: FTIAC and Transfer (Table 9)

The class of new FTIACs in 2004 numbers 902, a decline of 140 students from last years' class of 1,042. Incoming transfers number 102.

The percentage of enrolled FTIACs that are Christian Reformed decreased slightly, from 49.5% last year to 48.0% this year. Nearly 40% of the class members have at least one parent that is a

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Calvin alum. The number of conditionally admitted students continues a nearly decade-long decline, dropping once again this year, from 60 last year to 53 this year.

The number and percentage of AHANA FTIACs increased from last year, from 57 (5.5%) to 62 (6.9%), while the proportion of the FTIAC class that are Canadian citizens dropped by over one-half, from 60 last year to 26 this year.

Enrolled to Admitted Yields (Table 10)

Roughly 54% of admitted FTIACs this year chose to enroll, resulting in an incoming class of 902 students. The highest enrollment yields among FTIACs this year are among West Michigan Christian High Schools (74%), Alumni children (73%) and Christian Reformed Church members (69%).

The yield of AHANA students continued fairly strong this year (51%), while yields among students from other church backgrounds, public high school graduates and students from surrounding Great Lakes states are lower than the overall yield, (all in the mid-40s). The yield for females lagged behind that for males this year, as it did last year. The overall yield for transfer admits, at 64%, is also slightly lower than in previous years.

FTIAC GPAs and Test Scores (Table 11 & 12)

The academic strength of the entering first-year class increased on almost all measures when compared with previous classes. Mean GPA stands at 3.56, slightly higher than last year's 3.54, while ACT Composite scores increased slightly, from 25.5 to 25.8. Mean Combined SAT scores also rose, from 1199 last year to 1204 this year. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs graduating in the top 10% of their high school class also increased, from 25% to 28%.

Faculty Composition (Tables 13 & 14)

The number of full-time teaching faculty at Calvin in 2004 is 307, up 2 from last year. An additional 90 part-time faculty this fall brings the total faculty number to 397. Faculty FTE (a rough measure of the full-time teaching equivalent which adjusts for part-timers and reduced loads) decreased slightly, from 303 last year to 299 this year.

The number of full-time female faculty dropped from 92 to 91, contributing to a slight decrease in the percentage of female full-time faculty for the second straight year. The number of AHANA (ethnic minority) faculty has dropped by one from 21 to 20. Other notables: the percentage of full-time faculty with a terminal degree decreased slightly, from 82.6% to 81.8%, and the student to faculty ratio based on teaching duties college-wide is 14.6 to 1, down slightly from last year.